Poor rate of export by CIL

7326. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd. is the third largest in the World but its exports during 1993-94 were not even 1 percent of the global export market;

(b) if so, the reasons for this poor rate of exports;

(c) the steps which Government have already taken or propose to take to boost its exports in future; and

(d) whether any targets have been fixed in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) According to information furnished by Coal India Limited (CIL) 0.98 lakh tonnes of coal has been exported by them during 1993-94. Actual export of coal will depend not only on availability of coal as per the specifications demanded by the foreign buyers but also on mutually acceptable terms and conditions and availability of infrastructure like railway wagons and port facilities etc. Efforts are however being made to boost up coal exports to a level of 3 lakh tonnes during 1994-95, for which CIL is also exploring the possibility of exporting coal through Indian exporters and trading houses.

Survey on Coal in Jayankondam, Tamil Nadu

7327. SHRI TINDIVANAM G VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey for exploration of coal is going on near Jayankondam, Trichy District, Tamil Nadu apart from the one already carried out by ONGC; and

(b) if not, whether any other part in Tamil Nadu is under Survey for Coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir, However, Geological Survey of India (GSI) is engaged in exploration for lignite in South Arcot and Thanjavur districts of Tamil Nadu.

Cost of product between underground and opencast mines

7328. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that higher cost of production in underground mines in comparison to open cast mines is being incurred by subsidiaries of the Coal India Ltd;

(b) if so, what are the details and reasons there of including the cost of production of both open cast and underground mine of different subsidiaries; and

(c) what is the reason of high cost even in open cast mines inspite of the fact that over-burden and Coal extraction are being done by the help of HEMM with the use of explosives and so far as the labour is concerned its requirement is negligible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The subsidiarywise details of cost of production in underground and opencast mines of Coal India Ltd.